

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 SSM-03 /113 W

-----050138Z 033758 /14

P R 042346Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2630

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0628

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL: PROPOSED HANDLING OF THE

SYG'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE EAST

REF: A) USUN 576

B) STATE 45035

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN CONNECTION WITH SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION ON THE SYG'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WE PROPOSE HOLDING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH SC MEMBERS EARLY NEXT WEEK TO SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR LOW-KEY SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION. WE WOULD RECOMMEND IN THESE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS THAT SECURITY COUNCIL CONDUCT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS PROMPTLY DURING WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE ASKED TO PREPARE A LETTER TO THE SYG WHICH WOULD THEN BE READ AT A FORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. THE SC PREFERABLY COULD ALREADY BE IN SESSION ON AN AFRICAN ITEM TO WHICH THE SYG REPORT ITEM COULD BE ADDED ON. END SUMMARY.

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2. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 31/62 ON THE PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST REQUESTS THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONVENE SUBSEQUENT TO THE SUBMISSION OF THE SYG'S REPORT. ALTHOUGH NO TIME FRAME IS MENTIONED IN THIS RESOLUTION, WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT AMB. YOUNG AS SC PRESIDENT HOLD BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH

THE PERMANENT MEMBERS, AND FOLLOWING WITH THE REMAINING COUNCIL MEMBERS EARLY NEXT WEEK. THIS PROMPT ACTION WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE RESOLUTION, INDICATE RESPONSIVENESS AND GOOD FAITH OF US AS SC PRESIDENT, AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISPOSITION OF REQUIREMENT OF SC TAKING ACTION WITHOUT HOLDING SC DEBATE ON MIDDLE EAST AT THIS TIME.

3. DURING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, WE WOULD SEEK COUNCIL MEMBERS' AGREEMENT TO RESPONDING TO SYG'S REPORT BY MEANS OF A LETTER FROM SC PRESIDENT TO THE SYG, WHICH COULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE REPORT, EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE SYG'S EFFORTS, AND NOTE THE SYG'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO KEEP THE COUNCIL INFORMED. IF THROUGH THESE CONSULTATIONS GENERAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED, THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE WHERE THE LETTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED. SOME DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT ITSELF WOULD LIKELY TAKE PLACE AS WELL AT THIS POINT. FOLLOWING AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT OF A LETTER, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL WOULD SUGGEST, AS HAD BEEN AGREED AT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, THAT HE READ THE LETTER AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL BE IN MID-MARCH ON THE BENIN ITEM.

4. WE ANTICIPATE THAT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS COULD TAKE SEVERAL DAYS AND IN SEVERAL INSTANCES COULD REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE CONVERSATION, PARTICULARLY

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WHERE MEMBERS FELT A NEED TO CONSULT WITH ARAB STATES BEFORE AGREEING TO OUR PROPOSED SCENARIO. EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT TO APPROXIMATELY THIS SCENARIO OR A MODIFICATION (SUCH AS SUBSTITUTING A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT FOR THE LETTER) WOULD BE OBTAINED HOPEFULLY IN ADVANCE OF THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. WE WOULD RESPOND TO ARGUMENTS THAT THE PRESIDENT CONSULT WITH THE PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PLO, ALONG LINES OF REFTEL B. WE WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS FROM PREVIOUS SC RESES ON THE MIDDLE EAST. MOREOVER, WE WOULD ADD SYG'S CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES WOULD APPEAR ADEQUATE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO OUR PROPOSED OUTLINE OF ACTION.

BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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